

## Message

**From:** Prendiville, Timothy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65788119595F4ECBA85E1F493246FBAF-TPRENDIV]  
**Sent:** 12/6/2017 8:37:59 PM  
**To:** Adler, Kevn [adler.kevin@epa.gov]; Dion Novak [Novak.Dion@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: Did you see this article? Brockovich steps into Mich. well contamination lawsuit [wolverine]

## Ex. 5 - Attorney Client & Deliberative

**From:** Chabria, Monesh  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 2:04 PM  
**To:** Prendiville, Timothy <prendiville.timothy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Did you see this article? Brockovich steps into Mich. well contamination lawsuit [wolverine]

## Ex. 5 - Attorney Client & Deliberative

Mony Chabria  
 Section Chief  
 U.S. EPA Region 5  
 Office of Regional Counsel  
 312-886-6842  
[chabria.monesh@epa.gov](mailto:chabria.monesh@epa.gov)

**From:** Williams, Thomas  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2017 1:42 PM  
**To:** Chabria, Monesh <[chabria.monesh@epa.gov](mailto:chabria.monesh@epa.gov)>; Arrazola, Ignacio <[arrazola.ignacio@epa.gov](mailto:arrazola.ignacio@epa.gov)>; Kyte, Larry <[kyte.larry@epa.gov](mailto:kyte.larry@epa.gov)>; Klassman, Debra <[klassman.debra@epa.gov](mailto:klassman.debra@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lupton, Jane <[lupton.jane@epa.gov](mailto:lupton.jane@epa.gov)>; Nelson, Leverett <[nelson.leverett@epa.gov](mailto:nelson.leverett@epa.gov)>; Asque, Gillian <[asque.gillian@epa.gov](mailto:asque.gillian@epa.gov)>; Clark, Jacqueline <[clark.jacqueline@epa.gov](mailto:clark.jacqueline@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Did you see this article? Brockovich steps into Mich. well contamination lawsuit [wolverine]

FYI; an external communications strategy becomes ever more important, so I will check in on this.

Tom

**From:** Williams, Thomas  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** Freed, Elisabeth <[Freed.Elisabeth@epa.gov](mailto:Freed.Elisabeth@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Asque, Gillian <[asque.gillian@epa.gov](mailto:asque.gillian@epa.gov)>; Clark, Jacqueline <[clark.jacqueline@epa.gov](mailto:clark.jacqueline@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Did you see this article? Brockovich steps into Mich. well contamination lawsuit

No, thank you, although we knew it was on her radar since she posted about it (IIRC on her Facebook page) a few weeks ago.

Also, I wasn't aware there was a "class action," although these terms sometimes are used loosely. I have seen reports that private civil actions have been filed. Tom

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**From:** Freed, Elisabeth  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 1:23 PM  
**To:** Williams, Thomas <[williams.tom@epa.gov](mailto:williams.tom@epa.gov)>; Clark, Jacqueline <[clark.jacqueline@epa.gov](mailto:clark.jacqueline@epa.gov)>; Asque, Gillian <[asque.gillian@epa.gov](mailto:asque.gillian@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Did you see this article? Brockovich steps into Mich. well contamination lawsuit

## Brockovich steps into Mich. well contamination lawsuit

Published: Wednesday, December 6, 2017

A class-action suit, supported by environmental activist Erin Brockovich, is targeting three Michigan companies accused of contaminating well water through dump sites for years.

The federal lawsuit, filed Friday, was announced yesterday.

Wolverine World Wide Inc., a western Michigan shoe manufacturer; 3M Co., which produced a water repellent for the shoes' leather; and Waste Management Inc., which runs the landfill that received some of the contaminants, were named in the lawsuit.

Wolverine revealed that chemicals used to make popular shoes including Hush Puppies and Stride Rite leached into nearby wells.

Brockovich got involved in the case after she received hundreds of emails from people in the community asking for advice.

"What saddens me is the breach of trust that these people feel," she said. "It's a kick in the gut to go buy a house, you are on well water, you have faith or trust in the system or the developer or a company upstream that they are doing the right thing."

The wells have tested positive for polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS.

Wolverine declined to comment on the lawsuit, and a 3M attorney said the company is not liable for any contamination (Leonard Fleming, *Detroit News*, Dec. 5). — **CS**

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